Amendments to the Drawings

A Replacement Sheet has been submitted for Figure 1 to overcome the drawing objection.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7-9 are pending. Claims 1-3 and 5 have been amended, claims 4 and 6 have been canceled, and new claims 7-9 have been added to recite additional features of the embodiments disclosed in the specification. In addition, a new Abstract has been provided that conforms to the requirements noted by the Examiner and a Replacement Sheet has been submitted for Figure 1 to overcome the drawing objection.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) for being anticipated by the Cho patent. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite (a) detecting selection of an automatic washing function by a user and (b) sensing a temperature of water supplied to the washing machine during performance of the automatic washing function. The sensed temperature is compared to a reference temperature, and then laundry is washed based on one of two predetermined washing conditions based on an outcome of the comparison.

The Cho patent does not disclose steps (a) and (b). In Cho, the temperature of water supplied to a drum is detected, and then washing conditions are set based on a comparison of that temperature to a reference value. However, unlike claim 1, the steps in Cho are performed for a <u>manual</u> washing function, not for an automatic washing function as recited in the claims. See column 3, lines 33-35, in Cho which provide: "When the user sets S201 at time and a

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temperature through the control panel 10, the washing machine performs the heating operation

S202."

By requiring the user to set the time and temperature, it is clear that the Cho washing

machine operates in manual mode. (See Paragraph [0009] of Applicants' specification in

comparison to the automatic washing function of the claimed invention). Accordingly, the Cho

patent does not disclose (a) detecting selection of an automatic washing function by a user and

(b) sensing a temperature of water supplied to the washing machine during performance of the

automatic washing function. Cho also fails to disclose steps (c) and (d) when performed during

an automatic washing function as required by claim 1.

Moreover, it is further noted that Cho limits the washing time and the temperature of

washing water, and changes the amount of washing water, the rotational velocity of the drum

and/or the period for changing the rotational direction of the drum according to variations in

the temperature of the washing water during the heating step. (See Col. 3-4 and Col. 5, Lines 7-

14, of Cho). In contrast, the method of claim 1 does not limit and change the washing time or

temperature of the washing water, but rather sets a washing condition depending on the supplied

washing water temperature. In other embodiments, the laundry amount is also taken into

consideration for these purposes.

Because the Cho patent does not disclose all the feature of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the Cho patent does not anticipate this claim. Applicants further submit that these differences are sufficient to render claim 1 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Cho.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) for being obvious in view of a Cho-Harwood combination. Applicants traverse this rejection on grounds that the Harwood patent fails to teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Cho patent. That is, Harwood was cited for its disclosure of a washing machine which determines a water level based on load size. Harwood does not teach or suggest steps (a) and (b) of claim 1, or performing steps (c) and (d) of claim 1 during an automatic washing function.

Absent a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is allowable over a Cho-Harwood combination.

Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) for being obvious based on a Cho-Harwood-Rhodes-Knoop combination. This rejection is traversed on grounds that the Rhodes and Knoop patents do not teach or suggest the features of base claim 1 missing from the Cho and Harwood patents. Rhodes and Knoop disclose washing clothes based on information stored in a loo-up table. Neither patent, however, teaches or suggests steps (a) and (b) of claim 1, or performing steps (c) and (d) of claim 1 during an automatic washing function.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) based on a Cho-Herr-Harwood combination. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 5 recites features similar to those which patentably distinguish claim 1 from the references of record. For example, claim 1 recites checking whether an automatic washing function is selected and then washing laundry based on a comparison of a sensed temperature to a predetermined degree when the automatic washing function is selected. The Cho and Harwood patents do not teach or suggest these features, and while the Herr patent discloses an automatic washing function this patent does not teach or suggest performing steps (a) and (b) during an automatic washing function.

The same is true of Herr with respect to steps (c) and (d) in claim 1, i.e., Herr does not teach or suggest steps (a) and (b) of claim 1, nor does Herr teach or suggest performing steps (c) and (d) of claim 1 during an automatic washing function.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 5 and their dependent claims are allowable over a Cho-Herr combination, whether taken alone or in combination with Harwood or any of the other references of record.

New claims 7-9 have been added to the application.

Claim 7 recites that the automatic washing function of claim 1 is performed based on a predetermined washing time. These features are not taught or suggested by the references of record when taken in combination with the remaining features in claim 1. For example, the Cho

patent discloses performing a manual washing function where the <u>user</u> is required the <u>manually</u>

<u>enter</u> the washing time. (See column 3, lines 33-35). Cho, therefore, does not teach or suggest

the features of claim 7.

Claim 8 recites that each of the first and second predetermined washing conditions in

claim 1 includes one or more of a washing time, washing temperature, or a water level, and claim

9 recites that the first and second predetermined washing conditions are stored in a look-up

table. These features are not taught or suggest by the references of record when taken in

combination with the other features recited in claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the

application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance of the

application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is

hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and

please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

                                    Respectfully submitted,
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